

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 were examined in the October 19, 2009 Office Action. Claims 1-3, 6, 9-11 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Publ. No. 20030016545 to *Jutras, et al.* Claims 7 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over *Jutras*. Claim 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,841,641 to *Faulk*. Claims 4, 5, 12 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1, 8, and 9 are amended above, with no new matter added thereby. Claims 4 and 12 are cancelled. New claim 16 is presented for examination. Further consideration of the rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Indication of Allowable Subject Matter Relative to Claims 4, 5, 12 and 13.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter relative to claims 4, 5, 12 and 13 is noted and much appreciated. As is further described below, the allowable subject matter of claims 4 and 12 have been incorporated by amendment into independent claims 1 and 9, respectively. Claims 4 and 12 have been cancelled as being redundant and the dependency of claims 5 and 13 have been adjusted to now depend from amended claims 1 and 12, respectively.

B. Anticipation Rejection of Claims 1-3, 6, 9-11 and 14 is Addressed.

The anticipation rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 9-11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by U.S. Publ. No. 20030016545 to *Jutras, et al.* is respectfully traversed.

In view of the allowed subject matter of claims 4 and 13, now incorporated by amendment in claims 1 and 12, respectively, claims 4 and 13, and dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 9-11 and 14 all recite allowable subject matter. Withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claims 1-3, 6, 9-11 and 14 is proper and respectfully requested.

B. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 7 and 15 is Addressed.

The obviousness rejection of claims 7 and 15 over *Jutras, et al.* is respectfully traversed.

Claims 7 and 15 are deemed to be allowable as being dependent upon

allowable base claim 1 and allowable base claim 9, respectively. In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is proper and respectfully requested.

C. Anticipation Rejection of Claim 8 is Addressed.

The anticipation rejection of claim 8 as anticipated by *Faulk* is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 has been amended to include similar limitations as are found in the claim 4. As such, no new matter has been introduced into claim 8. Neither *Faulk* nor *Jutras* teaches the limitations of claim 4 that are now all incorporated into claim 8. In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is proper and respectfully requested.

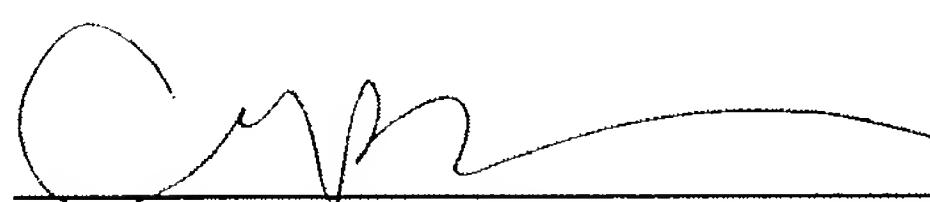
D. New Claim 16.

New claim 16 is presented for examination. Claim 16 is generally a combination of features of method claim 8 combined with limitations similar to those found in dependent claim 5, but without the intervening limitations of claim 4. Neither *Faulk* nor *Jutras* teaches limitations of claim 5 as incorporated into claim 16. Allowance of claim 16 is proper and respectfully requested.

E. Conclusion.

Each of claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-16 being in form for allowance, such action is respectfully requested. Should any additional issues remain, the Examiner is asked to please telephone the undersigned. Although no fees are believed due for this filing, any fees deemed associated herewith may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,



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